

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-20 INR-11 INRE-00 LS-01 DRC-01

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O 121045Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5736

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1130

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BGEN, GB

SUBJ: DC-8 FOR GABON

REF: LIBREVILLE 1111 AND PREVIOUS

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM CONIQUET, PRESIDENCY SECRETARY GENERAL, DATED SEPTEMBER 12 ENCLOSING COPY OF MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT BONGO TO GABONESE EMBASSY WASHINGTON FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER RE DC-8.

2. FOLLOWING IS FRENCH TEXT OF BONGO MESSAGE: QUOTE.
VEUILLEZ REMETTRE MESSAGE SUIVANT A MINISTRE KISSINGER
CITATION HONNEUR CONFIRMER IMPORTANCE PRIMORDIALE DE LA
MISSION EXTRAORDINAIRE ENVOYEE AUPRES DE VOTRE EXCELLENCE
POUR CONNAITRE DECISION RELATIVE ACQUISITION APPAREIL
DC8 63 POUR MON USAGE PERSONNEL STOP VOUS DEMANDE INSTAMMENT
ACCEPTER RECEVOIR MES REPRESENTANTS PERSONNELS MM BRU PIGOT
RICHON QUI SEJOURNENT ACTUELLEMENT WASHINGTON DANS
ATTENTE VOTRE AUDIENCE STOP VOUS RENOUVELLE OFFICIELLE-
MENT GARANTIES DONNEES DANS NOTE VERBALE DE 26 JUIN 1974
ET AU COURS PREMIERE VISITE MISSION EXTRAORDINAIRE
CONCERNANT UTILISATION CET APPAREIL POUR MON USAGE
PERSONNEL ET EN COMPLEMENT POUR SERVICES COMMERCIAUX
DANS CADRE RESEAUX COMPAGNIES AIR AFRIQUE UTA SOUS
REGIME IATA STOP CECI EXCLUANT TOUS PAYS FAISANT OBJET
SANCTIONS DE LA PART DE LONU DONT GABON EST MEMBRE ET
A PLEINEMENT SOUTENU ET APPROUVE DECISIONS STOP
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ORGANISATION UNITE AFRICAINE ET CHEFS DES ETATS AFRICAINS

ONT ETE INFORMES PUBLIQUEMENT DE CETTE ACQUISITION ET
ONT CONFIRME AGREMENT SANS RESERVE DON DEPARTMENT
ETAT A ETE TENU INFORME OFFICIELLEMENT STOP SUIIS DONC
TRES SURPRISE ET AFFECTE DE CONSTATER QUE LES ASSURANCES
DONNEES A CE SUJET PUISSENT ETRE CONTESTEES ET MISES
EN DOUTE PAR SERVICES ADMINISTRATIFS COMPETEMYS D'UNE
NATION AMIE STOP CETTE AFFAIRE ETANT DEMEUREE SANS
SOLUTION DEPUIS PLUS DE SIX MOIS DELAI TRES PREJUDICIABLE
ET ONEREUX POUR MON PAYS J'ESTIME INDISPENSABLE QUE
MISSION EXTRAORDINAIRE PUISSE REVENIR D'URGENCE A
LIBREVILLE AVEC DECISION FAVORABLE DE VOTRE PART STOP
HONNEUR FAIRE APPEL A VOTRE HAUTE COMPREHE
SION DANS
CADRE AMITIE TRADITIONNELLE UNISSANT NOS DEUX PAYS ET
VOUS EXPRIME PAR AVANCE REMERCIEMENTS TRES SINCERES
STOP TRES HAUTE CONSIDERATION FIN CITATION. ALBERT
BERNARD BONGO. END QUOTE.

3. CONIQUET COVERING LETTER ASKS EMBASSY INTERVENTION
SO THAT MATTER WILL BE RESOLVED ACCORDING TO WISHES OF
PRESIDENT BONGO. (QUOTE. JE VOUS SERAIS TRES OBLIGE
DE BIEN VOULOIR INTERVENIR DANS LE SENS DE CE MESSAGE
AUPRES DE VOTRE GOUVERNEMENT, AFIN QUE CETTE AFFAIRE
ABOUTISSE COMME LE SOUHAITE LE PRESIDENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE.
END QUOTE).

4. SUBJECT TO DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE EMBASSY PROPOSES
SEND CONIQUET FOLLOWING REPLY (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED):
(APPROPRIATE SALUTATIONS)...AND HAS THE HONOR TO
ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S LETTER
OF SEPTEMBER 12, 1974 ENCLOSING THE TEXT OF A MESSAGE
FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC TO THE
AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER CONCERNING THE
ACQUISITION OF A DC-8 AIRCRAFT.

THE EMBASSY HAS INFORMED THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF
THE PRESIDENT'S URGENT MESSAGE AND HAS RECOMMENDED ONCE
AGAIN THAT THE REQUEST FOR PURCHASE OF THE DC-8 AIRCRAFT
BE GIVEN IMMEDIATE AND FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION.
COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE.
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5. PLEASE ADVISE CONCERNING SUITABILITY OF ABOVE REPLY
AND/OR NECESSARY EMENDATIONS BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

6. FYI. PRESIDENT BONGO RETURNING TO LIBREVILLE
AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 12 FROM FOUR-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT
TO EQUATORIAL GUINEA.

7 COPIES OF CONIQUET LETTER AND BONGO TELEGRAM BEING
POUCHED AF/C SEPTEMBER 14.
COUNTRYMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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